

Cat Dissection

Title: The Digestive System Lab

Purpose: To dissect and observe the structures of the cat digestive system

Materials: shirt, gloves, paper towels, scalpel, forceps, scissors, probes, cat, colored pencils, rubber bands, drawing paper, lab manuals, handouts

Dissection of the Cat Digestive System

Procedure:

1. Use the illustration manual to aid in identifying the structures of the cat digestive system
2. Using scissors, continue your incision from the cardiovascular system from the **xiphoid process** to the pelvic region just above the **genitalia**
3. At the pelvic region, make cuts laterally and dorsally toward the spine on both sides
4. Carefully peel back the abdomen, remove the **greater omentum**, and observe the following structures:
 - **esophagus (behind the trachea)***
 - **liver***
 - **gall bladder***
 - **stomach***
 - **pancreas***
 - **small intestine (3 sections)***
 - **large intestine (4 sections)***
 - **cecum***
 - **mesentery***
 - **rectum (do not draw)**
 - **anal canal (do not draw)**
5. Draw, in detail, the digestive system of the cat. Use at least ½ of the page
6. Label and color each of the parts that are * in step 4
7. Optional- Ask the teacher if you would like to observe the contents of the stomach

Conclusion Questions:

1. Describe the function of each of the structures that are * in step 4. (14 organs total)
2. Trace the path of food through the alimentary canal starting from the mouth and ending in the anus.
3. What is the function of the salivary glands?
4. What is the function of the greater omentum?
5. List the digestive system organs and what they secrete and what they food they break down.
(Ex.- Liver secretes bile emulsifies fats)

● **FIGURE 60a-2**
Structures of the Digestive
System — Cat. (Caudate
lobe of liver not shown.)

